

File COMMO # 001, Doc.# 32 A

Comments on M.A.'s letter of 22 May '56 (see Doc.# 32):

It is the answer to Bruno's letter of 11 May (see Doc.#30; the main issue in it was the address of Māra L. in New York).

M.A. is considering whether she should start an official inquiry about her husband H.A. - asks that Bruno should talk this matter over with Dr.SPEKKE if Bruno has an opportunity to do it.

M.A. has not yet sent the a/m address in New York to ANNA - is going to wait a little and send it then. Apparently M.A. does not want to write too often to Latvia ( the last letter she sent was in mid-April '56 ).

She will send the MINOX with Mrs.KACENS (see Doc.# 29 B) who is arriving in New York at the beginning of July; M.A. is going to send the address there later. \*  
M.A. is very grateful about this deal.

During some social gathering M.A. has encountered PETERSONS but they have not talked about the letters from Latvia.

It follows ANNA's answer to the questions of M.A. from 11 April '56:

" I would gladly look for Tamara's relatives but I don't know their names ( but without them they cannot be found here in the address table ).

/ apparently, ANNA does not know the first name of Tamara's father; the last name is quite common and well known to ANNA - C./

I don't understand in what connection do You ask about Ida; it is unthinkable that we, having lived such a long time, could get separated. She (Ida) is angry that Your goddaugther does not write anything reasonable, in fact she is saying nothing. However, the last letter was not so empty but it would be nice to

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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy ☐

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hear a little more about their life. Our regards to them and tell them how we are living.

Next summer I want to devote myself to fishery - I hope to build a trough - Valters is delighted about this not less than I am. Obviously, we have reached the age when fishery is ~~not~~ becoming. "

/ it is not quite clear what is meant by IDA - Bruno is going to ask about it in his next letter to M.A. Most likely it could be an abbreviation of Izolde, i.e. Izolde BĒRZIŅA - VĪTOLS though the latter was sometimes called IZA not IDA. Strange is the reference to M.A.'s goddaughter - Bruno cannot imagine who she could be; is going to ask about it./

Most important is the last part of the quotation. In my opinion it is a clear hint that this summer ANNA and/or VALDEMARS are going to escape to Sweden <sup>fisher</sup> by boat. Although it is written as a casual remark, the use of VALDEMARS' pseudonym VALTERS indicates that a clandestine action is planned ( VALDEMARS lived in Kurzeme in 1944/45 under the assumed name Valters RIEKSTIŅŠ while trying to escape to Sweden; in 1947/48 he had announced his intention to flee to Sweden in letters signed as Valters; when returning to Latvia in 1949 the organization of GITA referred to him as VALTERS in GITA's letter to the underground in Latvia ).

It seems that M.A. too has understood this hint since she closes her letter as follows:

" I don't know yet when I am going to have my vacation but if You have some questions it would be well if You send them in time. Or would You like to come over ~~by~~ yourself? It seems to me that this ( the latter possibility ) would be possible only after longer discussions ( with authorities ) and that would not be well. You know and will appreciate what I am putting in Your hands.- Write immediately. "

The latter part of this letter is written on 23 May - the day M.A. received 256.40 SKr (the equivalent of \$ 50.)

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M.A. gives also additional info about the BARONS-VITOLS (see Doc.# 29B):

the father of Aina BARONS, nee VITOLS, did not die - there was only discord in the family. He (Dr.VITOLS) lives and works at the old place.\*\* He was very cordial when ANNA visited him after <sup>the time in</sup> ~~his~~ prisonership - it was the first place where ANNA went when back in Latvia.

M.A. states that she receives news from ANNA in three ways; one among them is directly to her ( the other two channels might be: one through GITA, the other via the old address of Tamara L.).

\* While recently in N.Y.C., Bruno heard that Mrs.Milda KACENS and her daughter Mrs.Ilga KUNDZINS are going to live with the RIEKSTINS in Mount Vernon, N.Y. Mrs.Milda KACENS, nee ZIEDINS, is a sister i.l. of Mrs.ZIEDINS and the latter's daughter Aina got married to Pēteris RIEKSTINS, MD. The address of RIEKSTINS: 1 Hudson Ave., Mount Vernon, N.Y.

\*\* Dr. VITOLS had his apartment and office on <sup>Blaumana</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Street between Tērbatas and Kr.Barona St. on the even-number side, i.e. the eastern side. The <sup>e</sup>house<sub>1</sub>number could be between 23 and 29 ( the house across the street had the number 26 ); it was the first or second building from Kr.Barona St. and had four or five storeys. Formerly the name of Dr.VITOLS was on a name-plate at the entrance of this apartment house; a listing of all residents was in the lobby. This house had an elevator and stained-glass windows in the staircase; the VITOLS had their apartment on the third or fourth floor.

Note: Although M.A. does not mention on what date she received the letter from ANNA, it seems that it must be around the 14th of May since on that day she wrote two letters to Bruno and his wife, asking for an urgent answer and <sup>Bruno's</sup> ~~XXXXX~~ present address.

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File COMMO # 001, Doc.# 29 B

Comments on M.A.'s letter of 11 Apr.'56 ( see Doc.# 29 A ):

During the Christmas time M.A. has been in Stockholm where she visited the VETERES; has heard nothing new there about ANNA.

She has not sold the Minox yet - asks whether she should send it to Bruno by mail or <sup>through</sup> ~~give it to~~ Mrs.KACENS and the latter's daughter Ilga \*, who are moving from Sweden to the US this summer.

Up to now she has received no support from Dr.A.SPEKKE.

As to the agreements between her and ANNA about the ways of communication, she states: the agreed actions are not being realized literally but in <sup>a</sup> different manner. On 11 Apr. '56 she has received a letter from Latvia, written by her sister Nora ( see File # 204, Doc.# 1,p.4 ), which asks for the address of Tamara L., i.e. not the full address but only the street and house number. This request indicates that the author of this letter, presumably ANNA, does not want to ~~xxxx~~ send letters for Tamara L. to her old address in Sweden but to US ( since ANNA should know that there were no streets or house numbers in the old address in Sweden ).

M.A. has answered <sup>on 11 April</sup> ~~to~~ this letter not stating the new address of Tamara L., only telling that she is in contact with Tamara L. Now M.A. is waiting for instructions from Tamara's husband.

ANNA

Besides, in answering the a/m letter, M.A. asks <sup>also</sup> about IDA ( apparently she has mixed up the cover names - should be IZA, i.e. Izolde <sup>VITOLS</sup> ~~BERZINS~~, see card 1970 ).

In his letter of 4 Oct.'55 Bruno asked M.A. whether there are some news about Aina BARONS, nee VITOLS ( see COMMO # 001, Doc.# 12, p.9 ), since he assumed that

□ □

would have  
 ANNA told M.A. about Aina B. Now M.A. reports that Aina B. is living and working together with her husband, children and her mother in Rūjiena ( 5755 02515 NE ) but her father ( Jānis Alfreds VITOLS, MD ) in Riga. The news about her father is really surprising since Bruno as well as Tamara L. remembered quite clearly that Aina's father deceased already in free Latvia. Now it seems that their recollection has been wrong. It means that Dr.med.Alfreds VITOLS, one of the listing of 14 persons received from JOHN last July, is identical with Aina's father; the latter was well known to ANNA. (Aina's father)

M.A. has sent two parcels to Latvia this year - one in February, the other in April - to be delivered to ANNA's family.

M.A. has also received four books from Latvia but not in connection with ANNA. One of the books is a translation from French to Latvian, made by Elza STĒRSTE ( see card 5612 ), issued in 1955. M.A. is ready to send this book to Dr.A.SPEKKE, who is brother i.l. of Elza S. Another book is a translation from Estonian to Latvian by Jānis ŽIGURS (see card 1968) - M.A. is ready to give it Bruno.

M.A. cannot understand why there are no news about the relatives of Tamara L. and the latter's husband though ANNA had promised to write about them; M.A. has asked about them, and is repeating this question also in her letter of 11 Apr. '56 to Latvia.

C.

\* Mrs. Milda KACENS was a close friend of Bruno's parents. After WW II the KACENS lived in West Germany as DPs; later, after the death of her husband Aleksandrs KACENS, Mrs. Milda K. went to Sweden where her daughter, Ilga KUNDZIŅŠ, lived in Gävle. The recent years Ilga KUNDZIŅŠ was separated from her husband and lived together with her mother in Gothenburg where both got well acquainted with M.A. Now they apparently are going to immigrate in the USA.

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